

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 45-47 and 52-69 are present in this application. Claims 6, 7, 9, 17, 19-21, 23-25, 27, 35, 37-39, 41 and 43 being canceled and claims 52-69 being added by way of the present amendment. The amended claims and the new claims are believed to be supported by the specification and thus no question of introduction of new matter is believed to be raised. The amended and new claims are also believed to read on the elected species.

Claims 1, 4-6, 21, 23, 24, 39, 41 and 43-47 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) over US 6,316,814 (Nagata et al.) in view of US 6,606,120 (Merrill et al.) and the disclosure in the present application termed "Applicant Admitted Prior Art" (AAPA).

Nagata et al. is directed to a CMOS sensor and does not suggest a device having a connecting plate as recited in claims 1 and 56. Further, the "AAPA," which is cited for disclosing a connecting plate, does not suggest the connecting plate of claims 1 and 56. Merrill et al. is cited for disclosing a triple well. The pending claims are therefore allowable over the cited prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a favorable decision to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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